

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A process for firming the skin to counter the effects of aging, comprising:

applying to the skin of a person in need of the same a cosmetologically effective amount of a composition, wherein said composition is obtained from wheat proteins by crushing grains of fresh wheat to obtain a flour, dissolving said flour in water to obtain a solution, hydrolyzing said solution in the presence of proteases, separating soluble and insoluble phases in the hydrolyzed material, and concentrating said soluble phase thereby to concentrate an active principle thus obtained, whereby the molar mass of a different molecular species present having of the active principal has a principal peak at about 15,000 Daltons.

2. (original): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flour is solubilized in an amount of at least 80 g/l of water.

3. (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conditions of said hydrolysis are so that the pH is ~~maintained constant~~ constantly maintained between 4.0 and 10.0.

4. (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the conditions of said hydrolysis ~~are so that the~~ is constantly maintained at a temperature is maintained between 35 and 80°C.

5. (cancelled).